

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 are presented for consideration, with Claims 1 and 2 being independent.

The specification and abstract have been reviewed and amended to correct minor informalities and improve their idiomatic English form.

With respect to the claims, Claim 1 has been amended to further distinguish Applicant's invention from the cited art. In addition, Claims 2-6 have been added to provide an additional scope of protection. Support for the claim amendments and new claims can be found on page 5, line 4, *et seq.*, of the specification.

Initially, with respect to Applicant's claimed foreign priority as discussed on page 2 of the Office Action, it is noted that certified copies of the Japanese priority documents were filed on July 7, 2004. Acknowledgment of Applicant's perfected Claim for Priority is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Kita '263. Claim 1 is also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Cook '283 in view of Miyata '288. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 of Applicant's invention relates to a rear projector comprised of light image output means for outputting a light image, a reflector which reflects the light image, a lenticular screen, and a Fresnel lens. In addition, a transparent member is supported so as to incline from a vertical plane, wherein at least one member of the lenticular screen and the Fresnel lens is inclined so as to follow a planar surface of the transparent member by the load of the at least one member itself.

In accordance with Applicant's claimed invention, a high performance rear projector can be provided.

The Kita patent relates to a rear projector that includes a cabinet 1 containing cathode ray tubes, a reflecting mirror 4, a mirror cover 3, and a screen 6. As shown in Figure 4, the screen is comprised of a lenticular layer 6a and a Fresnel lens layer 6b coupled together by an adhesive 7, such as acetate tape.

In contrast to Applicant's claimed invention, however, it is respectfully submitted that Kita does not teach or suggest, among other features, a transparent member supported so as to incline from a vertical plane, with at least one of the lenticular screen and the Fresnel lens inclined so as to follow a planar surface of the transparent member by the load of the at least one member itself. In this regard, the Office Action asserts that the lenticular layer 6a in Kita is a transparent member located so as to incline from a vertical plane, with the screen member 6b located so as to be placed on the transparent member. It is submitted, however, that Kita shows a screen 6 having a curved surface, as in Figure 6, but not supported at an incline.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

The patent to Cook relates to a rear projection viewer apparatus comprising a housing 12 containing a front viewing screen 14, serving as a primary viewing screen, and an auxiliary viewing screen 60.

The Office Action acknowledges that Cook does not teach a transparent member, but relies on the secondary citation to Miyata for this teaching. In Miyata, the projection screen is disclosed to include a lens sheet 1, shading layer 3, and a transparent film 7

adhered thereto by an adhesive layer 10 (Figure 1). A hard coating layer 8 can also be formed on a front surface of the transparent film (Figures 2 and 3).

Initially, it is submitted that it would not have been obvious to modify Cook in view of Miyata as proposed in the Office Action because Cook is absent any incentive or motivation for providing a transparent member on its screen. As understood, Cook is concerned with providing a rear projection viewer having two screens--a primary screen and an auxiliary screen.

Secondly, even assuming, *arguendo*, Cook and Miyata could have been combined in the manner proposed in the Office Action, it is respectfully submitted that such a combination still fails to teach or suggest, among other features, a rear projector that includes at least a lenticular screen and a Fresnel lens inclined so as to follow a planar surface of the transparent member by the load of the at least one member itself. In Miyata, the thin transparent film 7 is secured to the shading layer 3 by transparent adhesive layer 10.

Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claim 1 is patentable over the cited art.

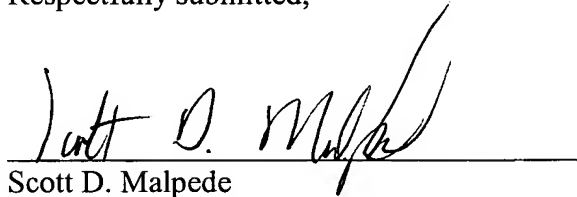
Independent Claim 2 is also submitted to be patentable over the cited art. Claim 2 includes a rear projector comprised of light image output means, a reflector which reflects light image from the light image output means, a lenticular screen, and a Fresnel lens. In addition, a transparent member is supported so as to incline from a vertical plane, and both the lenticular screen and the Fresnel lens are located on the transparent member and are thinner than the transparent member.

Still further, dependent Claims 3-6 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent Claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Malpede", is written over a horizontal line.

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